

Note on the name *eutyphron*, a subspecies of *Maculinea arion* (L.) (Lep.: Lycaenidae)

This name, as it stands, is unexplained, as pointed out by the late Maitland Emmet (1991. *The Scientific Names of the British Lepidoptera*: 151). However, if one letter (h), be inserted, making it *euthyphron*, it at once becomes intelligible even though, like so many such names, of no entomological bearing. *Euthyphron*, "right-minded", is the title of one of Plato's dialogues, where it is a personal name.— A. A. ALLEN, 49 Montcalm Road, Charlton, London SE7 8QG.

A note on the apparent rarity of *Orthoceratium lacustre* (Scopoli) (Dipt.: Dolichopodidae) in Kent

Within the Dolichopodidae, and especially the subfamily Hydrophorinae, may be found some of the most magnificent of British Diptera, one of these being *Orthoceratium lacustre*.

This species has been on the British list since at least the first half of the nineteenth century. Walker (1851. *Insecta Britannica* volume 1) described it under the genus *Hydrophorus* and stated "On waters, both fresh and brackish". Verrall (1905. List of British Dolichopodidae with tables and notes. *Entomologist's Monthly Magazine* 16) included it in the genus *Liancalus* and stated "much rarer than the other species and I only know it from Hampshire, Sussex and Suffolk". Verrall's "other species" was *Liancalus virens* (Scopoli). Fonseca (1978. *Handbooks for the Identification of British Insects* 9(5)), stated that it had been recorded from "Merioneths., Norfolk, Suffolk, Glamorgan, Kent, Dorset, Hants & Sussex. Ireland: Kerry". Falk (1991. *A review of the scarce and threatened flies of Great Britain. Part 1*. Research and Survey in nature conservation, 31) listed its status as Notable, that is, estimated to occur within the range of 16 to 100 modern, 10km grid squares. The proposed supplements to Falk's review were never published although a draft manuscript detailing the scarce and threatened Empidoidea, and written by Mr Roy Crossley in the early 1990s, was made available to interested parties. In this, *Orthoceratium lacustre* was removed from even Notable/Nb status.

Having casually amassed some 3000 records of Dolichopodidae, covering 340 one-kilometre O.S. grid squares and 46 ten-kilometre squares, from most habitat types in Kent during the past two decades, my personal view is that *Orthoceratium lacustre* is highly localised, as exemplified by the following data.

17.vii.1981, Murston, TQ 922646, dry grassland and scrub which had developed on the sites of former gardens and allotments; 8.vi.1982, Murston, TQ 929651, small area of chestnut woodland adjacent to the "Three Lakes" fishing ground; 5.ix.1982, Murston, TQ 925661, adjacent to brackish ditches; 18.vii.1983, Tonge Mill, TQ 932635, in alder carr; 21.vii.1983, Oare Gravel Pits, TR 003623, amongst damp scrub with alders; 14.viii.1983 and 6.vii.1994, Berengrave Lane LNR, TQ 8267, in damp former chalk pit; 16.ix.1983, Murston, TQ 928648, along marshy strip colonised by rushes and alders; 23.x.1983, Swalecliffe, TR 139677, coastal grassland